Claims:

1. Microorganism, characterized by the presence of a DNA sequence encoding a functional chaperone of a psychrophilic bacterium.
2. Microorganism according to claim 1, characterized in the DNA sequence encoding a functional chaperonin of a psychrophilic bacterium.
3. Microorganism according to claim 1, characterized in the DNA sequence encoding the chaperonin Cpn60 and/or Cpn 10 (SEQ ID No 1 and/or 2) of *Oleispira antarctica*.
4. Microorganism according to claim 1, characterized in the DNA sequence encoding a functional homolog of the chaperonin Cpn60 and/or Cpn10 of *Oleispira antarctica* (Seq ID Nr. 1 and/or 2) from a psychrophilic bacterium.
5. Microorganism according to claim 4, characterized in that the psychrophilic bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Moraxella,* and *Alteromonas haloplanktis.*
6. Microorganism according to claim 1, characterized in the DNA sequence encoding a functional mutant of the chaperonin Cpn60 and/or Cpn 10 (Seq ID No 1 and/or 2) of *Oleispira antarctica.*
7. Microorganism according to claim 1, characterized in the DNA sequence encoding the stabilized single ring mutant chaperonin Glu461Ala/Ser463Ala/Val464Ala of Cpn60 (Seq ID No 11) or the mutant chaperonin Lys468Thr/Ser471Gly and/or Cpn 10.
8. Microorganism according to one of the preceding claims, which is selected among animal cell lines, plant cell lines, gram-positive or gram-negative bacteria, fungi and yeasts.
9. Microorganism according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the heterologous protein has enzymatic activity or hormonal activity in its native conformation.
10. Microorganism according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the DNA sequence encoding a functional chaperone is located chromosomally, extra-chromosomally, or mitochondrially, or in chloroplasts of plants.
11. Process for producing a protein by heterologous expression in a host microorganism containing a gene sequence encoding the heterologous protein, characterized in that a microorganism according to one of the preceding claims is used.
12. Process according to claim 11, characterized in that the host organism is cultivated at a temperature below 25 °C, preferably 4 to 15 °C.

13. Process according to claim 11 or 12, characterized in that the heterologous protein is selected from the group consisting of mammalian proteins, psychrophilic mammalian or bacterial proteins, mesophilic bacterial, fungal or yeast proteins, and mutant or fusion variants thereof.
14. Process for changing the conformation of denatured proteins into their native and/or active conformation, characterized by the step of contacting the denatured protein with a functional chaperone of a psychrophilic bacterium.
15. Process according to claim 14, characterized in that the chaperone is the chaperonin Cpn60 and/or Cpn 10 (Seq ID No 1 and/or 2) of *Oleispira antarctica* in presence of at least one nucleotide, preferably adenosine triphosphate.
16. Process according to claim 11, characterized in that the chaperone is a functional homolog of the chaperonin Cpn60 and/or Cpn 10 (Seq ID No 1 and/or 2) from a psychrophilic bacterium or a functional mutant of the chaperonin Cpn60 and/or Cpn 10 (Seq ID No 1 and/or 2) of *Oleispira antarctica*.
17. Process according to one of claims 11 to 16, characterized in that the contacting is performed extracellularly or *in vitro*.
18. Process according to claim 17, characterized in that the contacting uses at least one immobilized chaperone.
19. Plant, characterized in that it can grow at lower ambient temperatures due to the presence of a DNA sequence encoding a cold-active functional chaperone of a psychrophilic bacterium or plant.
20. Plant according to claim 19, characterized in the DNA sequence encoding a functional chaperonin selected from the group consisting of Cpn60 and/or Cpn 10 (SEQ ID No 1 and/or 2) of *Oleispira antarctica*, a functional homolog thereof, and the stabilized single ring mutant chaperonin Glu461Ala/Ser463Ala/Val464Ala of Cpn60 (Seq ID No 11).